



THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

March 19, 1993

Dr. Donald Ford
Associate Research Director
Council for Tobacco Research
900 3rd Avenue
New York, NY 10021

Dear Dr. Ford:

On May 26-28, 1994, the New York Academy of Sciences will sponsor a 3-day conference on "*Functional Diversity of Interacting Receptors*" in Washington D.C. The conference, organized by Drs. Leo Abood, University of Rochester, and Abel Lajtha, NYU School of Medicine - N.S. Kline Institute for Psychiatric Research, will review the functional importance of multiple receptor subtypes, and the interactions of these systems in the brain.

We hope that your organization, which has played a major role in this area of studies, will support the presentation of this important basic and applied scientific research, and the interaction of scientists of various backgrounds and interest in this field. We feel that the interactions during the conference will expedite further work and collaborations in this field of great theoretical and practical importance.

The field of receptor research has made very significant advances, and in the past few years has exploded. This is a very exciting time, in which the basis of rational pharmacology - centrally acting drugs based on receptor interaction - is rapidly developing, but the progress in the basic understanding of brain mechanisms is possibly of even greater theoretical and practical importance.

It is now clear that to understand receptor function -- its specificity, modulation, and pathology -- an understanding of the role of the multiple receptor subtypes and their interaction is essential.

The organizers were successful in securing the participation of the major contributors and leaders of this rapidly advancing field, creating a program to discuss not only the achievements and the state-of-the-art of research, but also the pitfalls and the future possibilities. Participants will come from different fields, countries, and of different age.

Receptor structure, function, and interaction encompasses a very large area, and a very large number of studies. It is not the purpose of the conference to cover such studies exhaustively, but rather we plan to examine the major common principles involved. Basic molecular, neurochemical, pharmacological, and clinical aspects, functional significance, relevance to therapy, pitfalls, future possibilities will be discussed. Although the important

aspects of many receptors will be covered, it is not the purpose to discuss each aspect of each receptor, but rather to illustrate the principles, and avoid redundancy. General discussion and poster session will complete the program.

The New York Academy of Sciences, one of the country's foremost scientific organizations, presents between 18 and 20 conferences yearly. The proceedings of the conferences, published as volumes of the *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, are widely distributed internationally to more than 700 institutional libraries. The *Annals* are also offered to the Academy's 35,000 members. The volume resulting from this conference will serve as a compendium of the present state of knowledge of the field, as a stimulus for further research.

The Academy is asking you to consider supporting the conference with a contribution of \$50,000 that will go towards support of a projected budget of more than \$90,000. All contributions are tax-exempt and will be acknowledged in the conference program and in the resulting volume of the *Annals*. Supporters also received complimentary conference registrations and copies of the *Annals* -- the number to be determined by the level of contribution.

I have enclosed a tentative program to demonstrate the excellence of the participants and of the science that will be presented. I urge you to join other leaders in this field with a generous contribution to support this very important discussion of the issues. If we can provide further information, please do not hesitate to call me.

Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Lynn Serra
Development Manager

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